Upgradation of Bofors Gun

1815. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for the upgradation of the Bofors Gun; and

(b) if so, the details of the upgradation and total amount earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable in view of answers to part (a) above.

Acquisition of Wheeled S.P. Gun

1816. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status in respect of the acquisition of wheeled S.P. Gun;

(b) whether it is a fact that the General Service Qualification Requirement was changed after the opening of tender; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to invite fresh tenders for the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) A Price Negotiation Committee is currently negotiating the price of wheeled Self Propelled Gun with the vendor.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Help to 1971 War Hero

1817. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a 71-War Hero Col. (Retd.) Suresh Y. Rege, who had received the Sena Medal for gallantry in 1971

war, is yet to receive, after 33 years, the promised four hectares of unirrigated land and 300 sq. metres of residential land, after infructuous correspondence for the last 30 years with officials of Maharashtra Government; and

(b) if so, will the Defence Ministry lend its helping hand to get the matter sorted out for this 70 years old war hero?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. However, as per Appendix to CCO No. 60/72 a Sena Medal awardee in State of Maharashtra is authorized to receive the following incentives:

(i) Cash incentive Rs. 3000/-.

(ii) Dry Crop land or reasonably irrigated land or perennially irrigated land (as per allotment of land)—4/2/1 acre.

(iii) Residential plot-200 sq yds.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry will take up the case with the Government of Maharashtra so as to enable Col. (Retd.)SureshYRegetogethis dues/ incentives.

Establishment of Thermal Imager Detector Unit in A.P.

1818. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received in the Ministry for establishing Bharat Electronics Limited's Thermal Imager Detector Unit at either Machilipatnam or Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal sent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) when such request was received in the Ministry;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh agreed to extend all support for the establishment of the above Unit in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, what action the Ministry has contemplated on the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh?